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ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

HEALTHINESS OF THE CITIZENS

AND ON THE

SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

CITY & COUNTY OF NORWICH

FOR THE YEAR

1923,

BY

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

NORWICH:
Gibbs & Waller, Ltd., The Colegate Press.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

The Lord Mayor:

Miss Ethel Colman.

Chairman:

Mr. Councillor H. J. Pond.

Vice-Chairman:

Mr. Councillor G. S. Pope, M.R.C.S.

Members:

Mr. Alderman W. Shorten	Mr. Coun. W. B. Greenfield, J.P.
,, Coun. B. H. Barber, J.P.	,, ,, H. E. Hawes
Mrs. ,, A. Bloom	Mrs. ,, L. Henderson
Mr. ,, J. O. Bond	Mr. ,, H. T. Jarvis
,, ,, T. P. Castley	,, ,, J. W. Lemon
Miss ,, D. W. Fitt	,, ,, C. Watling
Mr. ,, J. Flack, M.B.	,, ,, R. White

Mrs. Councillor F. A. Whorton.

Maternity & Child Welfare Committee.

As above, with the addition of Mrs. Clifton and Miss Clarkson.

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PREFACE.

My Lord Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The matters affecting the healthiness of the community in 1923 calling for comment are (*a*) a sharp outburst of Measles; (*b*) the continued prevalence of Scarlet Fever, which gradually has infected portions of the city (with relatively large populations at susceptible ages) that escaped last year; (*c*) a somewhat similar but less pronounced prevalence of Chicken Pox in the latter half of the year, for the most part mild in type; this disease was added to the list of those notified; (*d*) relative prevalence of unemployment or part-time employment in certain sections of the population; and (*e*) a desperate dearth of houses.

Maternity and Child Welfare Work.—At and from the Maternity Institution, 298 confinements were attended, 59 in the wards. 147 of the mothers attended the Ante-Natal Clinics. Respecting these latter, Dr. Morgan has resigned office and Mr. Hancock, F.R.C.S., has been appointed in his place. The Committee has it in contemplation to extend and improve its ward accommodation; and at the same time make it possible to again receive pupils for training. Infant Welfare Clinics were conducted at Martineau Hall throughout the year, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons, with marked success; 937 new babies being brought, the total number of attendances being 9526—the average number attending the clinics (150 were held) being 63. Some 33 expectant mothers also attended. The Medical Officers, both at the Ante-Natal and at the Welfare Clinics, are concerned by the need for the provision of dental treatment, more particularly for the mothers, and this aspect of our welfare work will receive early consideration.

Notification of Births Act.—I am glad to report an increase in the number of notifications received as compared with the preceding year, viz., 79 per cent., there being still an undue percentage of failure to notify. Not that I greatly concern myself over a birth not being notified *when a doctor is present at the birth*, and I do not advise prosecution for non-notification in such cases. But I am concerned for the low standard of consciousness of civic duty implied in such failure cheerfully and readily to comply with the requirements of the law, and, being a temperamental optimist, confidently anticipate the gradual evolution of a higher conception of the principles and a more efficacious application of the practice of avid citizenship! In the case of births at which no doctor is in attendance, I have the house visited by the Inspector of Midwives, and *when the midwife in charge of the case have ceased to attend*,

direct the Health Visitor for the district to maintain a sympathetic and judiciously exhibited oversight of the child up to the time when it passes into the care of the Education Committee. The Health Visitors (who also are School Nurses) paid 17,632 visits (5,051 of them in connection with Medical Inspections in the Schools), 6,172 to infants, of whom 264 were ailing—roughly 1 in 9—a lower percentage than in 1922. 1,616 newly confined mothers were reported to be "healthy," 129 "delicate," and 27 "badly nourished," and for these latter milk was ordered. In the cases of 264 infants, bad methods of feeding where changed for better. There where 43 still births, 33 sets of twins and 3 of triplets. 345 infants (an increase of 60) were, for varying periods and on the whole with very satisfactory results, fed on *dried* milk; these infants being brought to the Welfare Clinics at intervals, and their general condition, weight, etc., noted. 17·7 per cent. of the dwellings visited *possessed only one bedroom* with (averaged) populations of 4·2.

Milk (Supply to Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Children).—This the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee invariably has sanctioned my supplying as liberally as the conditions imposed by the Ministry permit, and has adopted a generous income limit. During the year I gave orders for 6,727 pints for mothers and 817 for ailing and ill-nourished children. Apart from supplying fresh milk, 9045 packets of *dried* milk were distributed from Churchman House, 6,561 free of cost, and the remainder at full, half, or quarter cost. More of dried and less of fresh milk than was distributed last year.

Tuberculous Diseases.—There were 190 notifications of tuberculous disease sent in during the year (5 of them of a confidential character); 143 of tuberculosis of the lungs (Phthisis) and 47 of other forms. (In 1922 there were 150 notifications of lung cases and 41 of other forms.) There was, as is usual, a fractional majority of males among those affected. 38·5 per cent. of the notified cases were married folk, 59·5 per cent. single, and 2 per cent. widows or widowers. Information obtained from about 164 of the cases revealed evidence of family taint in 36·6 per cent. At the time of the first visit, 43·5 per cent. (of these 164) occupied a separate bedroom, 13 per cent. a separate bed in a double-bedded room, and 43·5 per cent. shared a bed with another person—presumptively non-tuberculous. 57·3 per cent. were insured, 34·2 per cent. dependants of insured persons, and 8·5 per cent. uninsured. The deaths from Phthisis (tuberculosis of the lungs) numbered 128 and from other tuberculous diseases 21. In 1922 the corresponding figures were 135 and 32. During the year, Dr. Fisher (Clinical Tuberculosis Officer) made 1,400 examinations, 1,072 at the Clinic and 328 at patients' homes, of 685 persons: 435 adults, 200

children, and 50 "contacts"—32 adults, 18 children: and Miss Duncan, the Special Health Visitor, paid 2,203 visits to the homes of the tuberculous. 136 persons were admitted to hospital, sanatorium or colony—114 of them pulmonary and 22 non-pulmonary. On Dr. Fisher's recommendation, I gave orders for 17,977 pints of milk to be supplied as "extra nourishment" to tuberculous people. I am hopeful ultimately of seeing all types of tuberculosis—pulmonary and non-pulmonary—hospital, sanatorium, colony, at all ages, and in both sexes, treated at Stanninghall, where there is ample space and where also the aggregation of these folk should lead to considerable economies in administrative expenses. As I have previously affirmed, I re-state, that I do not think the special provision of institutional treatment for cases past hope of recovery likely to serve adequately any useful purpose unless and until statutory power of compulsory segregation is conferred. As to occupation, bootworkers next to housewives furnished as usual the highest proportion of cases—there being 30 bootworkers (17 male and 13 female) and 30 housewives, 25 male school children and male children under school age, and 13 female. The other important figures were 9 "labourers" and 6 tailoresses. There were 37 (25 male, 12 female) occupations which furnished one case only. The total death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis was 1·2 per 1000 of the population.

Venereal Diseases.—I cannot say that I think the arrangements sanctioned by the Ministry of Health for these diseases entirely satisfactory or such as are likely to be productive of the best results, especially as respects the want of compulsory powers to secure complete cure. Last year 1,294 specimens were sent to the laboratory—901 from the V.D. Clinics. 625 persons were in attendance at the Clinics on January 1st, 1923, and 144 new cases were admitted to treatment during the year—38 less than in the corresponding period of 1922.

School Medical Work.—Inspection of some 6,706 children in the Elementary Schools revealed defects sufficiently serious to need medical treatment in 11·2 per cent. of them. The principal defects were as usual, naso-pharyngeal obstruction (adenoids and enlarged tonsils) 233, defects of vision 549, ear disease and deafness 138, skin diseases 477. By the end of the year 91·2 per cent. had been treated. In the Secondary Schools, 206 girls and 408 boys were examined. 45 or 7·3 per cent. were found to need medical treatment, and by the end of the year 40 or 88·8 per cent. of these had received it. The School Dental Officer finds defects in the teeth of 68·2 per cent. of those he inspects. That percentage for the whole school population means that practically two-thirds of the children in the schools need dental treatment.

Isolation Hospital.—1,319 (23 from outside) patients were admitted during the year—376 more than in 1922. These, with 117 who already were inmates on the 1st January, 1923, makes a grand total of 1,436. The average daily number of patients was 110, figures constituting a record. The death rate from all diseases was 3·7 per cent. The need for additional cubicles in which to segregate exceptional cases and mixed infections was, and remains, a source of recurring anxiety.

Housing.—The scarcity of houses persisted throughout the year and of necessity was aggravated by *the natural increase in population continuing to outstrip the supply of new dwellings*, of which, of all types, only 89 were erected during the year (70 as part of the Council's Housing Committee's Scheme). This increasing scarcity compels us to tolerate the continued existence of numbers of undesirable habitations, prevents their closure, and intensifies overcrowding. As I often have mentioned, a feature of much house property in the city is its worn-up condition, which makes reparation hopelessly unprofitable.

Blind Persons Act.—We have on our register 170 persons. A special Committee is entrusted with their welfare, and a Home Visitor has been appointed to visit, teach, read to, and generally look after blind persons residing in private dwellings.

Sanitary Administration.—Under this heading will be found a summary of the work of Mr. Brooks, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and his assistants.

Staff.—I again bear deserved and grateful testimony to the efficient services rendered by the members of the Public Health Department.

(Signed)

H. COOPER PATTIN.

March 25th, 1924.

ORDINARY REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1923

(In the form set out in Circular No. 451 of the Ministry of Health).

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (Acres)	7,898
Population (Estimated)	123,600
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	28,431
,, Families or Separate Occupiers (1921) ...	29,369
Rateable Value	£603,591
Sum represented by a penny rate	£2,280

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Total.	M.	F.	
Births	Legitimate ...	2,272	1,128	1,144	Birth Rate
	Illegitimate ...	135	71	64	19·4 per 1,000
Deaths		1,359	642	717	Death Rate 10·9 per 1,000

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth	From Sepsis ...	3
	,, other causes ...	3

Deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 births: —

Legitimate, 64·7. Illegitimate, 74·0. Total, 65·2

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	25
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	7
,, Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	11

3.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total No. of Deaths.
Diphtheria	232	223	31
Diphtheria and Measles	3	3	3
Scarlet Fever ...	1096	890	13
Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria ...	4	4	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	12	11	1
Puerperal Fever ...	5	4	3
Pneumonia	60	2	31
Erysipelas	36	5	1
Malaria	2	—	—
Dysentery	1	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1 (nursing home)	1
Chicken Pox ...	196	6	—
Poliomyelitis (not notified)	1	1	1

61 cases of Measles and German Measles were notified voluntarily.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED IN AGE GROUPS.

Disease.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 3.	3 and under 4.	4 and under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and over.	Total.
Diphtheria	2	9	18	19	16	79	46	19	17	5	2	—	232
Diphtheria and Measles	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Scarlet Fever	2	15	48	95	84	456	212	82	78	18	6	—	1096
Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
Enteric Fever ... ... (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4	3	1	—	12
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	5
Pneumonia	—	2	1	2	2	3	3	4	9	11	18	5	60
Erysipelas	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	4	8	6	11	3	36
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Chicken Pox	10	12	20	22	19	91	16	1	4	—	1	—	196
Poliomyelitis (not notified) ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS FROM NOTIFIED DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS.

Disease.	Under 1 year	1 and under 2.	2 and under 3.	3 and under 4.	4 and under 5.	5 and under 10	10 and under 15.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65	65 and upwards.	Total.
Diphtheria	—	3	5	6	2	10	5	—	—	—	—	—	31
Diphtheria and Measles	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Scarlet Fever	1	2	—	4	1	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	13
Enteric Fever ... ... (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3
Pneumonia	—	3	—	1	—	3	3	2	—	4	5	10	31
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
1 and under 5 ...	1	—	10	3	2	—	4	1
5 and under 10 ...	—	—	9	5	1	—	1	2
10 and under 15 ...	1	1	3	3	—	—	1	2
15 and under 20 ...	6	14	2	2	2	12	1	1
20 and under 25 ...	14	17	2	2	2	13	1	1
25 and under 35 ...	18	19	1	1	12	19	—	1
35 and under 45 ...	9	12	—	—	15	14	1	—
45 and under 55 ...	12	9	—	—	7	8	1	1
55 and under 65 ...	6	2	1	—	11	4	—	—
65 and upwards ...	1	1	—	1	3	3	—	—
Totals	68	75	28	19	55	73	10	11

Ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths, 0·12.

Notification of Tuberculosis remains fairly good and is improving, though it is by no means complete; a number of well-to-do people object apparently to notification, and occasionally I receive the notification practically concurrently with the death of the patient. In such cases if I were satisfied that any danger to the public health had been incurred I should advise prosecution; but as, in practically all the cases coming to my notice, the dwelling has been large enough for the patient to be given the use of a separate room and no risk to the public has been incurred, I continue

to chasten myself with admonishing gently the Doctor for his neglect to notify earlier; knowing quite well that in most cases he has not been a free agent; and rely upon the gradual growth of a heightened sense of public duty on the part of the friends of the patients to displace such bolshevistic examples of the social anarchy involved in setting one's own inclination above the law. I am always ready to treat with the fullest respect any confidential notification addressed to me personally; to accept a Doctor's statement that all due protective steps are being taken; and in the interests of statistical accuracy hope to receive more of such confidential notifications as time progresses—confidential also in the sense of not being followed by any visit, etc., of an officer from this department.

DEATHS FROM CANCER DURING THE YEAR 1923.

	Under 20 years.	20 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65	65 years and over.	Total.
Males	—	1	1	34	31	67
Females	—	3	6	39	50	98
	—	4	7	73	81	165

The death rate from Cancer was 1·3 per 1,000 of the population. The number of deaths in 1922 was 162.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases.			Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness	Deaths.
Notified.	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
22	15	7	19	—	—	3*

* 1 from Premature Birth and Inanition.
1 from Bronchitis and Ophthalmia Neonatorum.
1 from Intestinal Toxæmia.

4.—CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

Nothing noteworthy, save relative impoverishment and overcrowding.

5.—Summary of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals, and other Institutions available for the District.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

(*a*) General. There is a Cavell Home, from which nursing is furnished on the application of Doctors, the Local Health Authority and others; there is also the Norfolk and Norwich Staff of Hospital Trained Nurses from which nurses can be obtained; the Leicester Home attached to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital; a Nurses' Co-operation; and Nursing Sisters of the Poor.

(*b*) Cavell Home. The Local Authority pays the Cavell Home for the nursing of such cases (Tuberculosis, Measles, Pneumonia, &c.) as it commits to the care of the Cavell Nurses, at agreed rates.

Midwives. The Local Authority has in its service at the Maternity Institution a Matron and 5 Midwives who take district or ward cases as required; and occasionally pays other Midwives for temporary assistance. The number of Midwives practising in the City is 21.

Clinics and Treatment Centres. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are held on three afternoons a week at the Martineau Hall, Colegate, and readily are attended—the average attendance being about 63. *Day Nurseries*: None. *School Clinics*: Inspection Clinics are held at Churchman House on three afternoons a week, and treatment daily of minor ailments is conducted there; also Eye Clinics twice a week and Dental Clinics daily. *Tuberculosis Clinics* at Churchman House every morning except Wednesday, and on Wednesday evenings—separate entrance and exit, large waiting and well-lighted consulting room. *Ringworm Clinic* at Churchman House—separate entrance and waiting room, &c. *Venereal Diseases Clinics.* At Out-patient Department Norfolk and Norwich Hospital Tuesday mornings and Friday evenings. Irrigation for Gonorrhœa every evening, and special treatment by appointment on Wednesday evenings.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority.

Tuberculosis. (*a*) 12 beds annually are reserved for male patients at Kelling Sanatorium, Holt, and additional beds taken temporarily as required; and 3 beds for Women at Bramblewood.

(*b*) Conjointly with the County of Norfolk and the Borough of Great Yarmouth the Colony at Stanninghall—50 beds.

(*c*) Application has been made to the Ministry for sanction to retain 3 beds at Lowestoft for cases of surgical tuberculosis, and to increase the number of beds at Stanninghall.

(*d*) Cases are sent also to Malting's Farm and Ipswich Borough Sanatoria, and to Alton and elsewhere.

(2) *Maternity.* The Authority maintains two wards of 3 beds each at the Maternity Institution in Pottergate Street.

(3) *Children.* No Hospital maintained or subsidized save by payments (Education Committee) for school children needing operative treatment (*e.g.*, Tonsils and Adenoids) at the Jenny Lind Infirmary.

(4) *Fever.* The Isolation Hospital, Bowthorpe Road, allowing 2000 cubic feet of air space per bed, has accommodation for 88 patients; but as the majority of the patients are cot cases, we can, in emergency, accommodate over 100 patients.

(5) *Smallpox.* Outside the City, on Salhouse Road, with accommodation for 18-20 patients—main ward a converted barn.

(6) Only other Hospital subsidized by the Local Authority is the Diocesan Maternity Home in Surrey Street, which makes provision for unmarried mothers, and the Union Infirmary maintained directly from the rates; this latter Institution admits unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children.

Ambulance Facilities. Two ambulances are maintained by the Local Authority for removal of infectious, and the Police possess a fine motor ambulance for the removal of accident cases, which is loaned for a small fee, also for non-infectious cases.

6.—LABORATORY WORK.

Laboratory Work. Conducted in the laboratory at the Isolation Hospital. Last year 4,570 investigations were made, 4,112 for Diphtheria, 369 for Tubercle, 31 for Enteric, and 58 miscellaneous. Anti-toxin is re-supplied.

Adoptive and Local Acts: *Special Local Orders, Bye-Laws and Regulations in force in the district relating to Public Health.*

Local Acts:

1806—An Act for better paving, lighting, cleansing, watching and otherwise improving the City of Norwich.
1825—An Act amending and enlarging the last-mentioned Act.
1867—City of Norwich Act, 1867.
1879—The Norwich Improvement Act, 1879.
1889—Norwich Corporation Act, 1889.

General Adoptive Acts:

Baths and Washhouses Acts, 1846 to 1899.
Public Health Amendment Act, 1890
Public Health Amendment Act, 1907—Parts II., V., VI., VIII. and IX., and certain sections in Parts III., IV. and VII.

Local Orders, Bye-laws and Regulations:

Orders as to Notification of Infectious Diseases—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever, 1907.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1910.
Chicken Pox, October 8th, 1923, to December 31st, 1924 (Temporary).
Glanders, Anthrax and Hydrophobia in Man, 1909.
Orders under Public Health Acts declaring certain trades to be offensive trades, 1911 and 1922.

Bye-laws—

Common Lodging Houses, 1894.
Houses let in Lodgings, &c., 1895.
New Streets and Buildings, 1888.
Offensive Trades, 1914 and 1922.
Keeping W.C.'s supplied with sufficient water for flushing, 1900.
Prevention of Nuisances, arising from Snow, Filth, etc., 1859.
Slaughter-houses, 1911.
Tents, Vans, Sheds, and similar structures, 1910.

Regulations—

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops, 1893.
Underground sleeping rooms, 1914.

7. Sanitary Administration.

The following is a summary of the principal work of the Sanitary Department during the year and action taken under the various Public Health Acts or Bye-laws.

4,538 Nuisances detected.
488 Notices served by order of the Health Committee.
1,987 Preliminary Notices served.
5,197 Premises re-inspected.
3,978 Nuisances have been abated.
2,744 Special complaints have been received and the premises inspected.
592 Letters sent in order to obtain the abatement of nuisances, &c.
156 References to the City Engineer.
185 References to the City of Norwich Water Works.

The following are the principal matters that have been dealt with : —

160 Orders served to provide efficient closets.
194 ,, ,, ,, repair defectively paved yards.
250 ,, ,, ,, ,, or disconnect rain water pipes.
350 ,, ,, ,, cleanse and unstop yard drains.
501 ,, ,, ,, provide efficient dust receptacles.
38 ,, ,, ,, efficiently trap yard drains with gullies.
367 ,, ,, ,, repair defective water closets.
27 ,, ,, ,, cleanse dirty houses.
94 ,, ,, ,, remove and cease to keep animals.
1,641 ,, ,, ,, repair defective house roofs, floors, walls, &c.
94 ,, ,, ,, remove foul accumulations.
25 ,, ,, ,, abate overcrowding.
250 ,, ,, ,, repair defective eaves gutters.
28 ,, ,, ,, ,, or disconnect sink waste pipes.
6 ,, ,, ,, provide premises with a proper supply of water.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

1,719 visits have been paid to infected premises.

2,013 rooms have been disinfected upon the removal or recovery of the patient.

The disinfecting apparatus (Goddard Massey) is at the Isolation Hospital.

YARD AND COURT INSPECTION.

1,363 visits have been paid to Yards and Courts.

Sanitary defects found are dealt with under the term "Nuisances" in a preceding column.

MEETING OF OWNERS.

673 meetings of owners have been held.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS

145 smoke observations have been taken.

It has been found necessary to caution several manufacturers and firemen, and recommend the use of a better class of coal and the exercise of greater care in firing.

SHOPS ACT, 1912-13.

140 visits have been made to see that the requirements of the above Act were carried out.

PIGGERIES.

86 visits have been paid to Piggeries, many of which have been cleansed at the request of the Inspectors.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Total number of workshops in the City	...	501
Number of new workshops inspected	...	13
Total number of factories in the City	...	488
Number of outworkers premises visited by Male Inspectors	...	121

The undermentioned are the insanitary conditions that have been dealt with at the above class of premises:—

1 case of insufficient W.C. accommodation.
1 case of cleansing and limewashing being overdue.
2 cases of water closets being choked.
2 cases of water closets not being effectively screened.
6 cases of water closets not being provided with sufficient intervening ventilated space.
1 case of male and female water closets not being sufficiently separated.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH (FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS TRANSFER OF POWERS) ORDER, 1921.

The necessary inspections for carrying out the order as far as it refers to bakehouses, making of wearing appparel where there is Scarlet Fever or Small Pox, and homework where there is Infectious Disease, have been made.

BAKEHOUSES.

Number of bakehouses on Register		...	121
Visits paid to bakehouses	...	...	199

Cleansing and limewashing have been carried out during the months of April and October, and the premises have been found to be kept in a condition that is satisfactory, but nothing to be enthusiastic over.

SALE OF FOODS ORDER, 1921.

A number of butchers have been warned to properly and distinctly label their foreign meat.

MARKETS.

The Fishmarket has been visited and inspected daily, and the Vegetable, Fruit, and the Provision Markets on Market Days.

The Inspectors on duty every Saturday evening for the purpose of inspecting the meat, poultry, fish, etc., exposed for sale in the provision market and for examining articles of food exposed for sale in the poorer parts of the City, have on several occasions found it necessary to deal with various articles of food which were in a condition unfit for the food of man.

UNSOUND FOOD.

All meat found to be diseased and unfit for food is destroyed, the same being taken to and put into a digester.

CARCASES AND PARTS OF CARCASES AFFECTED WITH TUBERCULOSIS VOLUNTARILY SURRENDED.

2 carcases of Beef, 2 hindquarters of Pork, 1 forequarter of Beef, 14 pairs of Beasts' Lungs, 13 Beasts' Livers, 5½ Beasts' Heads, 2 pairs of Beasts' Kidneys, 3 Beasts' Tongues, 2 Beasts' Spleens, 2 Beasts' Hearts, 3 Beasts' Skirts, 3 Mesenteric Fats, 2 Beasts' Tripes, 1 Beasts' Udder, 10½ Pigs' Heads, 1 Pig's Pluck, and 1 Pig's Liver.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

		In December, 1922.	In December, 1923.
Registered ...	...	14	13
Licensed ...	...	15	15
Total	...	29	28

All these Slaughter-houses are visited on killing days, and practically all animals slaughtered and intended for the food of man are inspected before leaving the Slaughter-house.

3,183 visits have been paid.

It was found necessary sharply to reprimand some occupiers of Slaughter-houses respecting the dirty condition of the walls and floors, and the non-removal of refuse, in accordance with the Slaughter-house Bye-laws.

PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

During the year 246 samples of Food and Drugs have been submitted for analysis:—

Description of Samples.	Number of Samples	Result of Analysis	
		Genuine.	Adulterated.
Milk	185 (2 Informal)	166 (2 Informal)	19
Ice Cream	6	5	1
Butter	11 (1 Informal)	11 (1 Informal)	—
Malt Vinegar	3	3	—
Sponge Cakes	7	7	—
Brandy	4	2	2
Cream (Fresh)	4	4	—
Cream (Preserved)	3	3	—
Sausages	4	4	—
Lemon Syrup	3	3	—
Lemon Squash	2	2	—
Margarine	1 (Informal)	1 (Informal)	—
Cocoa	1	1	—
Lard	1	1	—
Condensed Milk	2	2	—
Jam	2	2	—
Ice Cake Mixture	1	1	—
Sweets	1 (Informal)	1 (Informal)	—
Asparagus	1	1	—
Potted Meat	1	1	—
Chicken and Ham Paste ...	1	1	—
Peas	1	1	—
Peas in Liquid	1	1	—
Totals ...	246	224	22

12 of the above samples of Milk were bacteriologically analysed, 10 of which were certified satisfactory. The remaining 2 cases, whilst not quite satisfactory, were not dangerous, and subsequent samples taken were satisfactory.

6 samples of milk were taken on Sundays.

In 5 cases of milk and 1 of brandy proceedings were taken against vendors for adulteration.

In 3 cases of milk and 1 of brandy the Magistrates convicted, and imposed fines varying from 10/- to £1.

2 cases of milk were dismissed.

In 14 cases of milk, 1 case of brandy, and 1 case of ice cream, the vendors were written to and cautioned.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS, 1912 & 1917.

1. *Milk and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream.*

	(*a*) Number of Samples examined for the presence of a Preservative.	(*b*) Number in which Preservative was reported to be present, and percentage of Preservative found in each sample.
Milk ...	185	... Nil
Cream ...	4	... Nil

2. *Cream sold as Preserved Cream.*

(*a*) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservatives were correct.

(1)	Correct statements made ...	3
(2)	Incorrect statements	—
	Total ...	3

(3)	Percentage of Preservative found in each sample.	Percentage stated on Statutory Label.
	(1) ·16	Boric Acid not exceeding 0·4%
	(2) ·223	do.
	(3) ·186	do.

(*b*) Determinations made of milk-fat in cream sold as preserved cream.

(1)	Above 35 per cent.	2	
(2)	Below 35 per cent.	1	(34·9%)
	Total ...	3	

(*c*) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirements as to labelling or declaration of preserved cream in Article V. (1) and the proviso in Article V. (2) of the Regulations have not been observed.

Generally speaking, the labelling and declaration of preserved cream is satisfactory.

(*d*) Particulars of each case in which the Regulations have not been complied with, and action taken. Nil.

3. *Thickening Substances.*

There was no trace of the addition of thickening substances in the samples submitted for analysis.

4. *Other observations, if any.*

Hotels, restaurants, and the premises of retailers of cream were inspected from time to time, and the requirements of the regulations as to the declaration of preserved cream, by the respective retailers, etc., were satisfactory.

MARGARINE ACT.

117 inspections have been made of premises to see if margarine was sold, and where such was the case, to see that the requirements of the Margarine Act were carried out.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Cowkeepers:—

Number on Register	25
Number of Cows	336

Milkshops:—

Number on Register	178
Number of applications for registration ...	29
Number of milkshops closed	31
Milk Retailers registered	208

Whilst most milksellers keep their shops and utensils scrupulously clean, it is difficult to make many milk retailers appreciate the necessity for keeping milk covered, so as to exclude dust, etc., and not to keep it in close proximity to other articles likely to contaminate it.

Generally speaking, the wholesomeness of the milk produced within, and the milk imported into, the district is satisfactory.

The distribution is in the hands of the retailers and appears to be satisfactory. Several of the retailers make two deliveries daily.

WATER ANALYSIS.

Three samples of water have been taken from pumps.

One sample was certified "Passable," and the other samples certified to be "Unfit for drinking purposes."

In one of the cases where the sample was certified "unfit" the premises have been provided with the Council's water. The other case was in hand at the end of the year.

RAG FLOCK ACT.

Eight samples have been taken under the above act.

Six were certified genuine and two adulterated. The vendor of the two adulterated samples was cautioned.

CARAVANS.

52 inspections of caravans have been made.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Fish Fryers	60
Dealers in Rags, Skins and Bones	15
Tripe Boilers	3
Fellmongers	2
Fat Melters	2
Waterproofing	1
	83

During the year, 592 inspections of these premises have been made.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

89 visits have been paid to houses let in lodgings, and many rooms were limewashed at the request of the Inspectors.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

The three common lodging-houses have been visited weekly, and found to be conducted in a fairly satisfactory manner.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THEATRES, MUSIC HALLS, &c.

During the year, 24 inspections were made. On the whole the conditions were found to be satisfactory.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

During the year, the following work has been done:—

Complaints received		226
Contracts signed (the occupier agreeing to pay for the services of the Rat-catcher at 2/6 per hour)		45
Number of baits laid:—		
Free service	12,705	
Contract service	4,673	
	———	17,378
Number of rats known to be killed:—		
Free service	2,019	
Contract service	224	
	——	2,243

CLEANSING.

During the year, 855 loads of Privy Bin Refuse were removed by the Night Wagons, and 23,100 loads of House Refuse in the daytime (19,321 loads by Horse Wagons and 3,779 loads by Electric Wagons).

12,002 loads of refuse were taken to the Fishergate Depot (11,953 loads by Horse Wagons and 49 loads by Electric Wagons) and removed by Wherry. 3,730 loads were taken to Harford Marshes by Electric Wagons and the remaining 7,368 loads were taken by Horse Wagons and disposed of on Market Gardens and Tips.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There were 365 Privy Pans, 164 Privy Bins, and 31,869 Water Closets in the City on December 31st, 1923.

The following Privy Bins and Privy Pans have been converted into Water Closets during the year:—60 Privy Bins and 107 Privy Pans.

In the case of privy conversions, the small space at the rear of the privy is filled up three inches above floor level, bottom and sides cemented, and suitable door provided. These spaces are used for storing refuse and are emptied weekly.

8.—PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

M.O.H. (who is also Adm. S.M.O., T.O., and M. & C.W.O.); Assistant M.O.H. (who is R.M.O. at the Isolation Hospital); 2 Assistant School Medical Officers for half the year—for remainder of year one, a Tuberculosis Officer; a School Dental Officer; a Chief, Deputy Chief and 5 Assistant Sanitary Inspectors; 2 Assistant Scavenging Inspectors; an Inspector of Midwives; 6* (combined) Health Visitors and School Nurses—1 for School Clinics and 1 for Tuberculosis Clinics—also a Visitor and Home Teacher for the Blind; 7 Clerks (1 Chief; 1 entirely and 1 partly for Education Work—1 chiefly for Tuberculosis Work, and 1 in charge of dried milk, etc., and 2 in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Office). (A Matron and about 2 dozen Sisters, Nurses and Probationers at the Isolation Hospital; A Matron and 5 Nurse-Midwives at the Maternity Institution). The foregoing are whole-time officers. The part-time officers are an Ophthalmic Surgeon; and two Obstetricians (Ante-Natal Clinic).

Three of the Sanitary Inspectors hold the Special Certificate for Meat Inspection given by the Royal Sanitary Institute, and one of these the Sanitary Science Certificate (Building, etc.). All the Health Visitors and School Nurses hold the C.M.B. Five of them Certificates in General Training (Nursing), and two of them the Maternity and Child Welfare Certificates of the R.S.I., and the Chief Clerk holds the Certificate of the R.S.I. for Meat Inspection.

Exchequer Grants are paid in respect of M.O.H. as S.M.O., M. & C.W.O., and Tuberculosis (Adm.) O., Assist. M.O.H. *re* Tuberculosis work at Isolation Hospital; Ophthalmic Surgeon; Assist. S.M.O.; Tuberculosis Officer; School Dental Officer; Inspector of Midwives and Health Visitors and School Nurses; Matron and Midwives—Maternity Institution; Visitor and Home Teacher for the Blind; 2 Obstetricians (Ante-Natal Clinic); 3 clerks.

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* This number to be increased.

9.—HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(*a*) Total, 89.

(*b*) With State assistance under the Housing Acts, 1919, or 1923.

I. By the Local Authority ... 70

II. By other bodies or persons ... Nil

1. *Unfit Dwelling-Houses.*

Inspection—

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 2,744

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 ... 101

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... —

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 2,498

2. *Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 2,328

3. *Action under Statutory Powers.*

A. *Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 22

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit:—

(*a*) By Owners 20

(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ... Nil

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ... ... Nil

B. *Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.*

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	170
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—	
	(*a*) By owners	137
	(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners	11

C. *Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.*

(1)	Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ...	Nil
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	Nil
(5)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil